

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated March 11, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 10, 13, 15, 16, 20, and 21 are hereby amended. Accordingly, claims 1–21 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,809,786 to Lee (hereinafter “Lee”); claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Liquid Crystals, Applications and Uses, by Bahadur (hereinafter “Bahadur”); claims 10–12, 14, and 17–21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Bahadur and U.S. Patent No. 6,833,891 to Jiang et al. (hereinafter “Jiang”); and claims 3, 5, 6, 13, 15, and 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 3, 5, 6, 13, 15, and 16 contain allowable subject matter.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration. Amended independent claim 1 recites “wherein the first electrode partially overlaps a portion of the seal pattern.” Nothing in Lee teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and claims 2, 4, and 7, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over Lee.

In the Office Action, claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Bahadur. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration. Claims 8 and 9, which depend from claim 1, are allowable because Bahadur fails to cure the deficiency of Lee to teach or suggest “wherein the first electrode partially overlaps a portion of the seal pattern.” Nothing in Lee and Bahadur, alone or in

combination, teaches at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8 and 9 are allowable over Lee and Bahadur.

In the Office Action, claims 10–12, 14, and 17–21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Bahadur and Jiang. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration. Amended independent claim 10 is allowable in that it recites “wherein the electrode partially overlaps a portion of the seal pattern forming area.” Nothing in Lee, Bahadur, and Jiang, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 10, and claims 11, 12, 14, and 17–19, which depend from claim 10, are allowable over Lee, Bahadur, and Jiang.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 20–21 and request reconsideration. Amended claim 20 is allowable over Lee, Bahadur, and Jiang in that it recites “forming a seal pattern partially overlapping a portion of the first electrode.” Nothing in Lee, Bahadur, and Jiang, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 20, and claim 21, which depends from claim 20, are allowable over Lee, Bahadur, and Jiang.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed..

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Respectfully submitted,

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